

REMARKS

Based on the above amendments and following remarks, this application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Response To Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, 102 & 103

The Examiner rejected the claims as follows

- Claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph;
- Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 23, 24, 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,128,620 to Pissanos et al (Pissanos);
- Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,924,074 to Evans (Evans);
- Claims 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pissanos in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,205,455 to Umen et al (Umen);
- Claims 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pissanos in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,507,829 to John Michael Richards et al (Richards);
- Claims 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pissanos in view of Evans; and
- Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Pissanos in view of Evans in view of Umen.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-33 without prejudice and submit herewith new claims that more particularly define the invention. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is novel and unobvious over the applied prior art. More particularly, the claims recite limitations that distinguish over the cited references and accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, 102 & 103 are overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and accordingly, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees, including any extension and/or excess claim fees, any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 06-0923. Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 C.F.R. 1.27.